Doctors' Strikes

Solidarity with Anarchists in Sudan

Meanwhile in Ballymena... Work+

BLACK STAR

AN INJURY TO ONE

IS AN INJURY TO ALL!

Workers came out to protest Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon borough council's sacking of a UNITE shop steward on Tuesday 11th June. Dozens of workers gathered at the Palace Demesne Public Park to protest what is an attack on all workers by the local council. The sacking reflects a hostile attitude to shop stewards and organised workers from the council and cannot be tolerated. While UNITE have launched an appeal against the sacking more direct action building on the Tuesday's protest is the only effective way to put manners on anti-union bosses.

Organise! and Black Star stand in solidarity with the sacked shop steward and with council workers in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon. Solidarity is strength.

'Let's make propaganda...among the workers' organisations and in the factories, and create new groups, and explain to everyone how the workers can emancipate themselves.'

Errico Malatesta

On again, off again... again!

Unite the Union's X account declared, the day before education workers were again set for strike action on 4 June, that 'meaningful' progress had been made in talks and the strike was off. How 'meaningful' those talks were is still unclear but maybe Conor Murphy has another 'funding envelope' like the one used to settle the college lecturers' strike a couple of months ago, or maybe not.

The Shinners may have eased some of the pressures from health workers going into the elections by securing the services of former Royal College of Nursing boss, Pat Cullen who is standing in Fermanagh-South Tyrone. Pat may well have to take a bit of a pay cut from her reported £200k per year if she makes it to Westminster (though not to take her seat obviously)!

Doctors' strikes

Meanwhile, the junior doctors were out for a third time on 3 June taking action from 6 to 7 June and the consultants are set to follow on the 26th of this month. Most of the political parties have rounded on the junior doctors in particular in the run-up to the election attacking their claim for stolen wages restoration of over 30 per cent and presenting it as a new pay claim. There have been some offers of a slight above inflation rise but this would only take starting salaries up to a little over the current £26k and crucially doesn't include the punishing weekend and out-of-hours labour. The consultants are in a better position but are seeking pay parity, being paid about ten grand less then their cohorts in Britain and about half what consultants take home in the Republic of Ireland.

The real issue here, of course, is the almost complete collapse in the NHS at the moment and the multitude of stresses on the workforce. Fighting back is the only option.

Just Books Publishing

Just Books Publishing, set up by the Just Books Collective, has so far published its first two titles.

The first is a reprint of Gregori Maximoff's *Constructive Anarchism*, to mark the 100th year of existence of the International Workers Association (IWA) the Anarcho-Syndicalist international founded in Berlin in 1922.

isbn 9781739723705

£7.99

The second title, now with a new cover, is Nick Heath's *The Idea. Anarchist Communism: Past, Present and Future* - a welcome and new comprehensive work on anarchist communism, this book seeks to rehabilitate the current of anarchist-communism. To make it better known and understood.

...a good substantial book, and much needed. Lucidly written, it provides a rich brew of engaging discussions of the 'Idea' (anarchist communism as a political philosophy), interesting vignettes of many individual anarchists, and a great historical account of the many anarchist communist organisations over the past 150 years... (Brian Morris on *The Idea)*

isbn 9781739723712

£15.00

Available from:

https://organiseanarchistsireland.com/shop/

Sudan Solidarity Appeal

Amid the ongoing massacres in Gaza and the brutality against comrades in Myanmar and New Caledonia, among other places, the war in Sudan has been relegated down the news agenda.

Fortunately, our comrades in the CNT-France have been in contact with the revolutionary anarchist militants in Sudan who are still battling to keep people safe and maintain mutual aid networks amongst the chaos of war. Organise! like other friends and sections of the IWA-AIT offer our support and solidarity to our comrades in Africa and we carry their appeal below.

The war broke out back in April last year between two groups, the Rapid Support Forces (known as the Janjaweed militias) and the official army in which tens of thousands have been killed and injured, millions displaced and millions more placed in imminent threat of starvation. It is estimated that about 8 million workers have lost their jobs and livelihoods, 70% of areas are without water or electricity, 75% of hospitals and 600 industrial plants have been destroyed, 19 million students stopped from studying and 80% of the machinery and infrastructure in the Geziera irrigated section (the world's largest), are lost.

The conflict has a number of dimensions—ethnic, with a history of reciprocal genocides, imperialist, because external powers exert influence through their own selfish economic interests in Sudan's natural resources and strategic position, but mainly counter-revolutionary in trying to extinguish the revolutionary upsurge of December 2023.

CNT-France have already gathered donations to provide support for our Sudanese comrades and are appealing for more, especially to assist in the escape of some of the revolutionaries under direct threat of death, imprisonment and torture. If anyone can make a contribution, contact CNT-AIT, 7 rue St Rémésy, 31000 Toulouse, France or via PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/cntait1

A call from the revolutionary comrades of Sudan to all the anarchists of the world!

تدعوكم مجموعة انارکیین السودان للتضامن معها لکي تستطیع مواصلة نشاطها التحرر

After the regime attempted to destroy and dismantle the glorious December Revolution, the outbreak of the 15 April war caused the displacement of 15 million Sudanese, the suffering of the entire population, the onset of famine and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

بعد ان حاول النظام تدمير ثورة ديسمبر المجيدة وتفكيكها وإندلاع حرب 15 أبريل التي تسببت في تشريد 15 مليون سوداني ومعانات كل الشعب وبداية مجاعة وسوء الوضع الإنساني

And now the Islamic brigades have launched campaigns targeting revolutionaries and have made numerous arrests and surrenders.

The group of Sudanese anarchists invites you to show solidarity with it so that it can continue its great liberation activity and take it up again, including from abroad.

We would like you to help us get some of our companions out of the country, where they are threatened with arbitrary arrest.

Down with the fascist military regime, down with the Janjaweed brigades!

No to the arrest of revolutionaries, No to the torture of revolutionaries!

Long live the Free Revolution of December!

شنت الكتائب الإسلامية حملات إستهداف للثوار واعتقالات وتعزيب واسعة

تدعوكم مجموعة انارکیین السودان للتضامن معها لکي تستطیع مواصلة نشاطها التحرري العظيم وإستئنافه من الخارج ، نريد مساهمتكم معنا في تكاليف نقل بعض الرفاق المهددين بالإعتقالات التعسفيه إلي خارج البلاد

يسقط النظام العسكري الفاشستي

تسقط كتائب الجنجويد

عاشة

ثورة ديسمبر الحرة

لا لإعتقال الثوار
لا لتعزيب الثوار

Meanwhile... in Ballymena

The local papers here were trumpeting the announcement recently by the council, now fronted by a DUP-Sinn Féin partnership for the mayor and deputy mayoral posts, of over 70 new apprenticeships. Now there's a reason people like me referred to their own apprenticeship experiences as 'serving their time', because it was akin to jail time in some ways, except at the end of it, instead of freedom, you entered into the bonded labour of capitalism! Having said that, the old apprenticeship system did provide generally decent jobs in unionised workplaces. The Tories and then New Labour overhauled apprenticeships to reflect the McJobs that followed de-industrialisation and now use local private companies, like Workplus, to find increasingly non-unionised service sector companies and a handful of manufacturers, and work with the council LMPs to find willing and unwilling victims. Lambs to the slaughter, methinks!

Get Involved: Help Build A Working Class Alternative.

ORGANISE!

FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION · AMIGOS DE LA ASOCIACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE LAS Y LOS TRABAJADORES

WWW.ORGANISEANARCHISTSIRELAND.COM

Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland which as affiliated to the International Worker's Association as 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, and particularly the history and tradition of struggle epitomised by the IWA - the anarcho-syndicalist international. Our history goes back to the original formation of Organise! by the Ballymena and Antrim Anarchist Groups in 1985.

We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked about by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, nationalism and sectarianism, and sick of a greedy few getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier…

The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

We currently have members in Belfast, Cork, Derry, Lisburn, Newtownabbey and Portadown and are building the organisation on the basis of active involvement and participation. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at https://organiseanarchistsireland.com and send an email to:

organiseasi@gmail.com